

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 15 are amended and no claims have been canceled. Accordingly, claims 1-25 are pending.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 15, 16, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Published Patent Application No. 10-143053 to Eiji. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to independent claim 1, Eiji does not disclose a first power source circuit board that generates a larger amount of heat than a second power source circuit board, and that is disposed downstream of the second power source circuit board in an air passage direction, as recited in claim 1. Eiji describes a low-voltage power supply substrate 80 and a high-voltage power supply substrate 83. The Office Action alleges that substrate 80 generates a larger amount of heat than substrate 83. However, Eiji is silent as to which of these circuit boards (80, 83) generates more heat.

Furthermore, absent contrary disclosure, a low-voltage power supply board does not necessarily generate a larger amount of heat than a high-voltage power supply board. Thus, Eiji fails to disclose a first power source circuit board that generates a larger amount of heat than a second power source circuit board, and that is disposed downstream of the second power source circuit board in an air passage direction, as recited in claim 1.

With respect to independent claim 15, Eiji does not disclose a power source circuit board disposed inside the main casing for outputting a drive voltage to drive the processing unit and disposed adjacent the first exhaust outlet. Eiji merely describes multiple substrates 80, 81, 82 and 83. The Office Action alleges low-voltage power supply substrate 80 is outputting a drive voltage to drive the processing unit 30. However, Eiji does not disclose which or if any substrates drive the processing unit. Thus, Eiji cannot reasonably be considered to disclose a power source circuit board disposed inside the main casing for

outputting a drive voltage to drive the processing unit and disposed adjacent the first exhaust outlet, as recited in claim 15.

Because Eiji fails to disclose all of the features of independent claims 1 and 15, claims 1 and 15 are patentable over Eiji. Further, claims 3, 5, 6, 16, 18 and 19 are patentable for at least the reasons that claims 1 and 15 are patentable, as well as for the additional features they recite.

For example, regarding claim 16, Eiji fails to disclose a power source circuit board that is positioned closer to a first exhaust outlet than is a high-voltage power source circuit board, as recited in Eiji, claim 16. In Eiji, the high-voltage power supply substrate 83 is disposed closer to the airstream outlet 74 than the low-voltage power supply substrate 80.

In view of at least the foregoing, claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 15, 16, 18, and 19 are patentable over Eiji. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

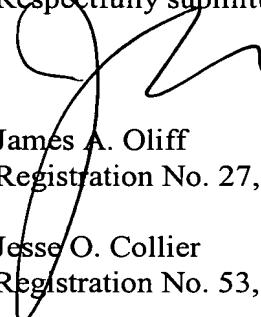
Claims 2, 4 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Eiji in view of Japanese Published Patent Application No. 2002-189320 to Akio et al. (hereinafter "Akio"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

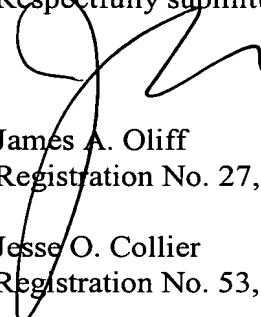
This rejection is premised upon the presumption the Eiji discloses all the features of claims 1 and 15. Because, as discussed above, Eiji does not disclose all of the features of claims 1 and 15, the rejection is improper. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-25 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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JAO:LXF/tjx

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